

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-11 SCEM-02 INT-08 COME-00 CIAE-00

PM-07 INR-10 L-03 NEA-10 NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01

SPC-03 USIA-15 TRSE-00 SAJ-01 OMB-01 DODE-00 SCI-06

AID-20 NSC-10 CIEP-02 SS-20 STR-08 CEA-02 EURE-00

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FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8402

INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY ROME 6070

USMISSION OECD PARIS

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG, GW, NL

SUBJECT: DUTCH-FRG CONSULTATIONS ON SPILL-OVER OF
DUTCH OIL MEASURES IN FRG

REF: BONN 15634, THE HAGUE 4760 AND 4759

1. DUTCH OFFICIALS HAVE BEEN IN TOUCH WITH THE FRG
ECONOMICS MINISTRY THIS MORNING TO WARN THE FRG OF
LIKELY FURTHER DUTCH MEASURES TO RESTRICT PETROLEUM
CONSUMPTION AND TO REQUEST CONSULTATIONS, POSSIBLY AT
THE MINISTER LEVEL, ON THE PROBLEMS ARISING FROM THE
INTERFACE OF THE DUTCH AND FRG ENERGY MARKETS.

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2. ACCORDING TO THE ECONOMICS MINISTRY, THE HAGUE CONSIDERS THAT THE ARAB BOYCOTT MEASURES TAKEN SO FAR WILL WITHIN TWO WEEKS OR SO RESULT IN A 50 PERCENT REDUCTION IN ALL CRUDE DELIVERIES TO ROTTERDAM. THE HAGUE HAS INFORMED THE FRG THAT THE GOVERNMENT MAY DECIDE THIS WEEK TO REQUEST ALL DUTCH REFINERS AND DEALERS TO REDUCE THEIR CURRENT DELIVERIES, INTERNALLY AND EXTERNALLY, BY 10 PERCENT. OTHER MEASURES MAY FOLLOW LATER IF THE DUTCH ARE UNSUCCESSFUL IN GETTING ARAB PRODUCERS TO LIFT OR MODIFY THE OIL BOYCOTT OF THE NETHERLANDS. THE HAGUE IS SEEKING CONSULTATIONS WITH THE FRG TO DISCUSS THE DESIRABILITY OF RESTRAINTS IN THE FRG SIMILAR TO CONTEMPLATED AND ALREADY TAKEN DUTCH MEASURES (I.E. THE CURB ON SUNDAY DRIVING).

3. WE ASSUME THAT SUCH CONSULTATIONS WOULD ALSO CONSIDER THE PROBLEMS ARISING FROM THE INTER-CONNECTION OF THE DUTCH AND GERMANS' OIL SUPPLY PROBLEMS. IN 1972 THE FRG IMPORTED 19 MILLION TONS OF PRODUCTS FROM ROTTERDAM REFINERIES AND 20 MILLION TONS OF CRUDE FROM ROTTERDAM BY PIPELINE (OUT OF TOTAL PRODUCTS CONSUMPTION OF 140 MILLION TONS). ALTHOUGH THE GENERAL COVERAGE OF THE ARABS' BOYCOTT OF THE NETHERLANDS IS STILL UNCLEAR HERE, THE FRG UNDERSTANDS THAT KUWAIT HAS INTERPRETED IT TO COVER ALL CRUDE DELIVERIES TO THE PORT OF ROTTERDAM, INCLUDING CRUDE FOR DIRECT TRANSMISSION TO OTHER COUNTRIES.
HILLENBRAND

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